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P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

homas I. Burger, Reg. No. 32, 662

PATENT

IN THE UNTIED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:

10/549,876

Confirmation No.:

5889

Art Unit:

3632

Filing Date: Applicant:

September 16, 2005 Kevin R. Easton

Title:

Swivel Adapter And Base Unit Handle

Attorney Docket:

ILSC-24B

Commissioner for Patents

October 31, 2007

P.O. box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUGGESTED RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT (SRR) UNDER 37 CFR §1.142(c)

This paper suggests that the USPTO restrict the above-identified pending application to one of the following inventions.

Group I, claims 1-16, including 3 independent claims, directed to a swivel adapter.

Group II, claims 17-20, including 3 independent claims, directed to a base unit handle connectable to a shaft and bar, an apparatus connectable to a surgical table, and an apparatus for supporting a head support at one end of a table.

These inventions appear to be distinct because, among other reasons, the swivel adapter claims of Group I recite combinations of structural elements, in varying degrees of specificity. In contrast, the claims of Group II are, in some respects, more general apparatus

Application No. 11/848,760

Suggested Requirement For Restriction

October 31, 2007

claims. Absent restriction of the Groups, the examiner could be burdened by this application.

For instance, the claim Groups could be subject to separate classification, and could thus

require separate patent searches.

For these reasons, applicant respectfully requests that the USPTO accept this SRR.

And in that context applicant hereby elects, without traverse, Group I, claims 1-16, and

applicant hereby requests withdrawal of claims 17-20. Group I has less than 5 independent

claims and less than 25 total claims. Accordingly, applicant has not submitted an Examination

Support Document (ESD).

Applicant respectfully requests that the USPTO follow this suggestion.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Burger

Reg. No. 32,662

Wood, Herron & Evans, L.L.P.

2700 Carew Tower

441 Vine Street

Cincinnati, OH 45202

(513) 241-2324 (voice)

(513) 241-6234 (facsimile)